

ALI BABA;  
OR THE  
FORTY THIEVES.



J. Wrigley, Printer, 30, Miller-street.



CHILDREN'S BOOK  
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# FORTY THIEVES.



in a town of persia lived two brothers, sons of a poor man ; one named Cassim, the other Ali Baba, Cassim, the elder, married a wife with a considerable fortune, and lived at his ease ; but the wife of Ali Baba, was as poor as himself ; they dwelt in a mean cottage in the suburbs, and he maintained his family by cutting wood. Ali Baba, was in the forest preparing to load his asses, with the faggots he had cut, when he saw a troop of horsemen approaching. He hastily climbed a large thick



tree, and hid himself among the branches. Ali Baba counted forty of them: each took a loaded portmanteau from his horse, and turning to the rock, said 'Open Sesame!'; immediately a door opened, the robbers passed in when the door shut of itself. In a short time the door opened again, and the robbers came out, who said, Shut Sesame.' The door instantly closed; Ali Baba ventured down and approaching the rock said, 'Open Sesame.' Immediately the door flew open. He brought his asses, took as many bags of gold coin as they could carry.

Ali Baba, told his brother, the secret of the cave. Cassim rose early next morning, and set



out with ten mules loaded with great chests. He found the rock and having said, 'Open Sesame,' gained admission, where he found more treasures than he expected. Which made him forget the word that caused the door to open. Presently he heard the sound of horse's feet, which he concluded to be the robbers; who instantly put him to death. Ali Baba drove to the forest and on entering the cave, he found the body of his brother cut into quarters. He took the quarters, and put them upon one of his asses. And delivered the body to Cassim's wife. Morgiana a female slave in his brother's house, was sent early next morning to a poor



cobbler, and gave him two pieces of gold to go with her blindfolded, taking him into the room where the body was lying, bade him sew the mangled limbs together. Mustapha obeyed, having received two pieces of gold, and was led blindfolded the same way back.

Cassim was buried with all due solemnity; and Ali Baba removed to the house of his deceased brother, of which he took possession.

The captain of the troop resolved to find out who possessed the secret of entrance into his cave, and disguising himself went to the city early one morning, when accosting the cobbler, he was told of the job he had, who for six



pieces of gold, allowed himself to be blindfolded, and traced out the house of Cassim which the robber marked with chalk.

Buying nineteen mules and thirty-nine large jars, one full of oil, and the rest empty. The captain put a man into each jar, properly armed, he then proceeded to the street where Ali Baba dwelt, "Sir" said he, I have brought this oil a great way to sell, as I am quite a stranger will you let me put my mules into your courtyard, and direct me where I may lodge tonight?" Ali Baba welcomed the pretended oil-merchant, offered him a bed in his own house, and invited his guest in to supper.



Morgiana sitting up later that night than usual, her lamp went out; she took her oil pot in her hand, and approaching the first jar, the robber within said, "Is it time, captain?" she replied, "No, not yet; so she ran back to the kitchen, and brought out a large kettle, which she filled with oil, set it on a great wood fire, and as soon as it boiled, she went and poured into the jars sufficient of the boiling oil to kill every man within.

The captain of the robbers, arose to assemble his men. Coming to the first jar, he felt the steam of the boiled oil; he ran hastily to the rest, and found every one of his troop put





to death. Full of rage, he forced the lock of the door and made his escape over the walls.

Without letting any one into the secret, Ali Baba, and Morgiana the next night buried the thirty-nine thieves at the bottom of the garden.

The captain at length, however determined to adopt a new scheme for the destruction of Ali Baba. He removed all the valuable merchandise from the cave to the city, and took a shop exactly opposite to Ali Baba's house. Ali Baba's son went every day to his shop. The pretended Cogia Hassan, soon appeared to be very fond of Ali Baba's son, offered him many presents and often detained him to dinner.



Ali Baba thought it was necessary to make some return to these civilities, and he invited Cogia Hassan to supper; Morgiana carried in the first dish herself. The moment she looked at Cogia Hassan, she knew it was the pretended oil-merchant. She sent the other slaves into the kitchen, and waited at table herself; and while Cogia Hassan was drinking, she perceived he had a dagger hid under his coat. She went away, and dressed herself in the habit of a dancing-girl. As soon as she appeared at the parlour door, her master, ordered her to come in to entertain his guest with some of her best dancing. Morgiana danced several





PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY  
**J. WRIGLEY,**  
Miller-street, Manchester.